



1493 PCT/PTO 25 JAN 2006

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Rev 9/05

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application : Thomas R. Horrall et al.
Application No. : 10/554,118
Filed : October 21, 2005
Confirmation No. : 4652
For : SOUND MASKING SYSTEM
Examiner : Not Assigned
Attorney's Docket : ACENT-006BX

TC Art Unit: 3677

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Jan. 23, 2006.

By: Holliday C. Heine
Holliday C. Heine, Ph.D.
Registration No. 34,346
Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is desired to cite for the record in this application the enclosed references listed on the attached copy of PTO Form #1449. The paragraph(s) marked below are applicable to this Information Disclosure Statement.

[] (1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) and (2), the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above identified national application or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 of the above identified application. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

- ☒ (2) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), applicant(s) believes the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.
- ☐ (3) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), applicant(s) believes the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.
- ☐ (4) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance and is accompanied by:
☐ a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e); or
☐ the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(d)

- ☐ (5) Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(d), applicant(s) hereby petitions the Commissioner to consider the attached Information Disclosure Statement which is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee. This petition is accompanied by a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

- ☐ (6) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)

- ☐ (7) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §

Application No.: 10/554,118
Filed: October 21, 2005
TC Art Unit: 3677
Confirmation No.: 4652

1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Where the status of the application has changed, unknown to the applicant, such that the boxes checked are no longer applicable, the Commissioner is authorized to accept this submission with any additional fees required by that change charged to Deposit Account No. 23-0804.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not a representation by the undersigned as to personal knowledge of the contents of every word or phrase of the material enclosed or that reliance on other suitably trained professionals has not been made. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited herewith is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b), or that Applicant(s) is(are) unable to provide an affidavit under 37 CFR §1.131 swearing back of such information.

If a search report of a searching agency is enclosed identifying the nature of the relevance of each document, such a designation is deemed to satisfy 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) even if in a foreign language because the codes are the same in all languages. However, applicant(s) does not necessarily adopt the position reflected by that report.

These references were cited in an International Search Report (copy enclosed) which issued in corresponding International Application No. PCT/US2004/012341 international filed on the 22 April 2003. Copies of these references have been transmitted by the International Bureau.

Application No.: 10/554,118
Filed: October 21, 2005
TC Art Unit: 3677
Confirmation No.: 4652

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0804. Triplicate copies of this letter are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS R. HORRALL ET AL.

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Date: January 23, 2006

Page 1 of 1

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. ACENT-006BX		APPLICATION NO. 10/554,118	
				APPLICANT: Thomas R. Horrall et al			
				FILING DATE October 21, 2005		TC ART UNIT 3677	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION/ ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
		US					
		US					
		US					
		US					
		US					
		US					
		US					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	*	WO 90/06449	14 June 1990	WIPO			
	*	WO 02/10595	7 Feb 2002	WIPO			

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</i>		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

***These references were cited in an International Search Report (copy enclosed) which issued in corresponding International Application No. PCT/US2004/012341 international filed on the 22 April 2003. Copies of these references have been transmitted by the International Bureau.**